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January 15, 2003

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CITY OF SEATTLE
MAYOR'S OFFICE

The Honorable Greg Nickels
Mayor of the City of Seattle
Office of the Mayor
600 4th Avenue, 12th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Gary E. Zarker

Dear Mayor Nickels:

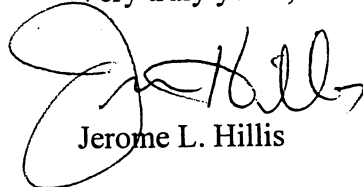
I would like to express my support for the confirmation of Gary Zarker as head of Seattle City Light. I recognize the concern and controversy over the rate issues which were experienced not only in Seattle, but nationwide. On the other hand, Gary has demonstrated tremendous leadership in this community in a variety of positions with the City. In my experience, he has always been straightforward, consumer-oriented and helpful to all of us who have had business with the City.

Rarely do we have someone of Gary's stature play an important role in local government and, at the same time, provide leadership at the national level. He has also been a leader in the environmental area and in accomplishing conservation.

Last, I recognize the tremendous change that has occurred in the utility industry but cannot imagine as a result, a more important attribute than providing continuity of service at this difficult time. I believe Gary Zarker will serve the City well.

If I can do anything to assist his confirmation, please let me know.

Very truly yours,



Jerome L. Hillis

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